

Message Text

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ORIGIN ACDA-10

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 ERDA-05 AF-08 ARA-06 CIAE-00
DODE-00 EUR-12 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 IO-13 L-03 NASA-01
NEA-10 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OIC-02 SP-02 PA-01 PRS-01
OES-06 SS-15 USIA-06 SAJ-01 /127 R

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OES:JDEVINE
PM:JMCGUINNESS
EA/TB:DGIBSON

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY RANGOON

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 037524

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, BM

SUBJECT: BURMA AND NPT

REFS: (A) 76 RANGOON 4088; (B) 76 STATE 294526

1. EMBASSY MAY WISH TO DRAW ON FOLLOWING INFORMATION IN
ANY SUBSEQUENT DISCUSSION OF NPT MATTERS WITH GUB.

2. WITH REGARD TO FIRST OBJECTION OF GUB REPORTED PARA 2
REFTEL (A) (I.E. MUTUAL OBLIGATIONS AND SECURITY
CONCERNS):

-- RESOLUTION 2028 (XX) WAS ADOPTED WITH US SUPPORT
NOV. 23, 1965 AND AS CO-SPONSORED BY BURMA AND 7 OTHER
STATES (COPY POUCHED). OPERATIVE PARA 2 CALLS FOR A
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NUCLEAR NONPROLIFERATION TREATY BASED ON FIVE MAIN
PRINCIPLES THE SECOND OF WHICH STATES QUOTE THE TREATY
SHOULD EMBODY AN ACCEPTABLE BALANCE OF MUTUAL RESPONSIBILITIES
AND OBLIGATIONS OF THE NUCLEAR AND NON-NUCLEAR
POWERS END QUOTE.

-- WHILE THE TREATY WAS OPENED FOR SIGNATURE IN 1968 DID

NOT REPEAT NOT IMPOSE ON TH: NUCLEAR WEAPON STATES (NWS)
THE OBLIGATION NOT TO USE NUCLEAR WEAPONS AGAINST

NON-NUCLEAR WEAPONS STATES (NNWS), THE PROCESS OF
NEGOTIATION HAD PRODUCED A NUMBER OF SIGNIFICANT OBLIGA-
TIONS ON THE NWS. FYI. THESE ARE EMBODIED IN ARTICLES IV,
V, AND VI. END FYI. IN ADDITION THE US AND UK ARE
NEGOTIATING WITH THE IAEA THE IMPLEMENTATION OF VOLUNTARY
SAFEGUARDS OFFERS ON THEIR CIVIL NUCLEAR FACILITIES. THIS
WAS NOT REPEAT NOT REQUIRED OF THE NWS BY THE TREATY BUT
WAS OFFERED TO FURTHER EQUALIZE THE BALANCE OF OBLIGATIONS,
AND TO MEET THE CONCERNS OF NNWS ABOUT THE SAFEGUARDS
REQUIRED OF THEM UNDER ARTICLE III.

-- IN THIS REGARD GUB WILL HAVE NOTICED THE CRITICAL
IMPORTANCE PRESIDENT CARTER HAS PLACED ON NUCLEAR ARMS
CONTROL. THIS AWARENESS STEMS NOT ONLY FROM THE DANGERS
OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS SPREADING TO ADDITIONAL COUNTRIES,
BUT ALSO FROM A REALIZATION OF NWS OBLIGATION TO REDUCE
THEIR OWN DEPENDENCY ON SUCH WEAPONS.

-- THE SECURITY CONCERNS OF NNWS WERE RECOGNIZED BY
SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION 255 OF JUNE 19, 1968. THIS
WAS SPONSORED BY THE US, UK AND USSR AND EMBODIED THEIR
WILLINGNESS TO PROVIDE OR SUPPORT IMMEDIATE ASSISTANCE, IN
ACCORDANCE WITH THE UN CHARTER, TO ANY NNWS PARTY TO THE
TREATY THREATENED OR VICTIMIZED BY NUCLEAR WEAPONS. THE
US, UK AND USSR INDICATED THEIR SUPPORT OF THIS POSITION
THROUGH SEPARATE DECLARATIONS TO THE COUNCIL ON JUNE 17,
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1968. THE US DECLARATION AFFIRMED OUR INTENTION TO SEEK
IMMEDIATE SECURITY COUNCIL ACTION TO PROVIDE ASSISTANCE, IN
ACCORDANCE WITH THE CHARTER, ETC. AS ABOVE. OF COURSE,
THIS PLEDGE OF ASSISTANCE IS ONLY OPERATIVE FOR NPT PARTIES
-- WHICH GUB IS NOT. SINCE THE POSSIBILITY OF NUCLEAR
W;APON DEVELOPMENT IN THE FORESEEABLE FUTURE BY GUB SEEMS
REMOTE, IT IS DIFFICULT TO SEE HOW THEIR SECURITY IS
ENHANCED BY REMAINING OUTSIDE THE TREATY REGIME.

-- THE NPT REVIEW CONFERENCE RECOGNIZED THE SECURITY CON-
CERNS OF NNWS AND THE USG ATTACHES GREAT IMPORTANCE TO
THESE RECOMMENDATIONS AND PLANS TO WORK ACTIVELY TOWARDS
THEIR IMPLEMENTATION. THE USG IS ATTEMPTING TO MEET NNWS
SECURITY CONCERNS VIA ASSISTING IN EFFORTS TO SOLVE
REGIONAL CONFLICTS AND THROUGH MUTUAL SECURITY ARRANGE-
MENTS. WE HAVE NOT BEEN ABLE TO ACCEPT UNIVERSAL NON-USE
ASSURANCES BECAUSE, FOR ONE REASON, THIS WOULD WEAKEN
THE SAME GUARANTEE PROVIDED SOME COUNTRIES THROUGH THE
ABOVE MENTIONED MUTUAL SECURITY RELATIONSHIP.

-- OF THE OTHER 7 STATES SHARING THE BURMESE CONCERNS REFLECTED IN RESOLUTION ,028 (XX), 4 HAVE BECOME NPT PARTIES (ETHIOPIA, MEXICO, NIGERIA, SWEDEN) AND ONE HAS SIGNED BUT NOT RATIFIED (EGYPT - WILL DO SO IF ISRAEL DOES). FYI. THE OTHER TWO WERE INDIA AND BRAZIL. END FYI.

3. WITH REGARD TO THE SECOND GUB CONSIDERATION REPORTED REFTEL (A) (I.E. POSITION OF REGIONAL STATES AND NON-ALIGNED);

-- CONTRARY TO GUB ASSERTION REFTEL THAILAND IS AN NPT PARTY. LAOS, MALAYSIA NAD SINGAPORE ARE OTHER REGIONAL STATES WHICH HAVE ADHERED. FYI. RECENT REPORTS FROM COLOMBO AND JAKARTA HAVE BEEN ENCOURAGING. END FYI.

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-- MOREOVER, THERE IS SUBSTANTIAL SUPPORT FOR THE NPT AMONG THE NON-ALIGNED. AROUND 70 OF THE APPROXIMATELY 100 NPT PARTIES ARE NOMINALLY NON-ALIGNED AND 10 NON-ALIGNED HAVE ADHERED WITHIN THE PAST TWO YEARS. AN OVERWHELMINGLY MAJORITY OF NON-ALIGNED SUPPORTED THE TWO PRINCIPAL NONPROLIFERATION RESOLUTIONS AT THE UN THIS PAST FALL. EACH RESOLUTION INCLUDED PREAMBLE PARAGRAPHS NOTING PREVIOUS CALLS FOR UNIVERSAL NPT ADHERENCE. FYI. BURMA ABSTAINED ON BOTH RESOLUTIONS. END FYI.

4. THE BURMESE HAVE CONTINUOUSLY PROVIDED EVIDENCE OF THE IMPORTANCE THEY ATTACH TO MULTILATERAL ARMS CONTROL EFFORTS THROUGH THEIR INVOLVEMENT IN GENEVA DISARMAMENT DISCUSSIONS AND AS WITNESSED BY THEIR RATIFICATION OF OR SIGNATURE ON 5 AGREEMENTS. FYI. GUB IS A PARTY TO THE LIMITED TEST BAN TREATY, OUTER SPACE TREATY, GENEVA PROTOCOL - AND HAS SIGNED THE SEABED TREATY AND THE BIOLOGICAL WEAPONS CONVENTION. END FYI. THE USG RECOGNIZES THE CONTRIBUTION OF GUB TO MULTILATERAL ARMS CONTROL EFFORTS THROUGH THE YEARS AND TOOK PARTICULAR NOTE OF REMARKS BY GUB FOREIGN MINISTER DURING THE UN GENERAL DEBATE LAST FALL WHICH EMPHASIZED THE IMPORTANCE OF HOLDING A SPECIAL SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY ON DISARMAMENT. THE USG RECOGNIZED THE IMPORTANCE ATTACHED TO THIS PRO,OSAL OF THE COLOMBO SUMMIT AND HAS AGREED TO PARTICIPATE AND ASSIST IN PREPARING CAREFULLY FOR 1978 SESSION.

5. THE USG ALSO ATTACHED PARTICULAR SIGNIFICANCE TO THE FOREIGN MINISTER'S EXPRESSION OF GRAVE CONCERN ABOUT THE INCREASE IN THE NUMBER OF NATIONS POSSESSING THE TECHNICAL

CAPABILITY TO PRODUCE NUCLEAR EXPLOSIVES. IN THIS REGARD
WE WOULD WELCOME GUB SUPPORT OF AND ADHERENCE TO THE NPT
WHICH WE AND MOST OTHER STATES--IRRESPECTIVE OF ALLIANCES,
DEGREE OF INDUSTRIALIZATION, OR NATURE OF SOCIAL SYSTEM--
CONSIDER A CRITICAL ELEMENT IN AVOIDING A WORLD OF
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PROLIFERATING NUCLEAR WEAPON STATES.
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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: NUCLEAR PROLIFERATION, NUCLEAR AGREEMENTS, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 18-Feb-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
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